



January 14, 2016

Dear Forest Warden / Fire Chief,

In accordance with State Law, the 2016 open burning season will begin on January 15th, and end at 4:00 PM on April 30th. These dates are set by the Department of Environmental Protection (DEP) with the objective of minimizing air quality impacts, and are enforced locally by the town Forest Wardens, Fire Chiefs, and your Department of Conservation and Recreation (DCR) District Fire Wardens.

A reminder to you that the DEP clarified its permitting message last year for open burning season to more clearly state that the Department prohibits rather than “advises” the issuance of open burning permits for days on which adverse weather conditions are forecast. This prohibition is authorized by the Massachusetts Air Pollution Regulation 310 CMR 7.07(3) (e).

For more information about Massachusetts Open Burning and 310 CMR 7.07, please access the Open Burning link on our website at:

<http://www.mass.gov/eea/agencies/dcr/conservation/forestry-and-fire-control/dcr-forest-fire-control.html> or refer to Section (19) OPEN BURNING in your Massachusetts Bureau of Forest Fire Control Directory of Information manual.

DEP provides the daily air quality assessments at:

<http://public.dep.state.ma.us/MassAir/Pages/MapForecast.aspx?&ht=1&hi=108> or on the telephone hotline 617-556-1021 daily at 8 a.m.

On behalf of the Bureau of Forest Fire Control personnel, and the Department of Conservation and Recreation, I thank you for your continued efforts in fire suppression and prevention. I wish you and your department a safe 2016 season.

Respectfully Yours,

David V. Celino  
Chief Fire Warden

Bureau of Forest Fire Control and Forestry Department of Conservation and Recreation

DVC/RBS/rbs

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